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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Michael G. Vrazel et al.

Serial No.: 10/032,586

Filing Date: December 21, 2001

Title: Increasing Data Throughput In Optical
Fiber Transmission Systems

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 3, 2002

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-styled patent application, please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENT

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, delete the first paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

--The present application claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Method of QAM Generation and Demodulation Techniques," filed on April 19, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/284,457. The present application also claims priority to

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 2, 2002.

Shane Nichols

A. Shane Nichols, Reg. No. 43,836